

AGENDA

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE

UTAH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, October 15, 2008 • 2:00 p.m. • Room C450 State Capitol

Approximate
Time Frame

2:00 1. Committee Business

- Call to order
- Approval of the minutes of the September 17, 2008 meeting

2:05 2. State Per Diem Standardization for State Agency Boards (draft legislation)

During the June meeting, the Committee asked staff to draft standardized language for providing per diem and travel expenses for state policy boards and committees. The Division of Finance was also asked for its recommendations for increasing the standard rates. Under Section 63A-3-106 Utah Code, the Division of Finance is required to "establish per diem rates for all state officers and employees of the executive branch...for attendance at official meetings." These rates are made by rule (R25-5-4) and set at \$60 per diem for each official meeting attended that lasts up to four hours and \$90 for a meeting lasting longer than four hours. Should the statutory language be standardized for all boards that pay per diem? Should the standard rates be increased? How should the Legislature respond to these issues?

- John C. Reidhead, Division of Finance

2:30 3. Election Law Changes (draft legislation)

During the June meeting, the Committee received a list of suggested changes to the Election Code from a representative from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. Under the direction of the committee chairs, these changes have been prepared into draft legislation for the Committee's consideration. How should the Legislature respond to these issues?

- Michael J. Cragun, Office of the Lieutenant Governor

3:00 4. Open and Public Meetings Act Revisions -- Availability of Minutes (draft legislation)

During the September meeting, after hearing public testimony, the Committee asked interested parties to provide their recommendations to the committee staff so that draft legislation could be prepared to address key issues regarding the availability of minutes of open meetings. Three issues emerged from the meeting: 1) making the recording available early; 2) making draft minutes available without waiting for approval; and 3) requiring approval of minutes. How soon after a meeting should a citizen be able to get a copy of these records? How should the Legislature respond to these issues?

3:40 5. Other Items / Adjourn